



Greetings FHI Stakeholders!

See below for updates, announcements, and save the dates from the Family Homelessness Initiative.

NEW CEH STAFF:

In July, Kira Zylstra, formerly of Solid Ground, will join CEH as Assistant Director. We are thrilled that she is joining us! Kira was the Director of Stabilization Services at Solid Ground, and as a co-chair of the CEH Family Homelessness Advisory Group, was already very active within CEH. Kira will be leading a number of initiatives as CEH implements its new Strategic Plan.

FHI ADVISORY GROUP UPDATE:

The FHI Advisory Group meets every other month; the next meeting is scheduled for July 8th. The agenda includes a discussion on the 2016 CEH legislative priorities, providing input on proposed strategies for next phase of realignment and providing input on the data framework to inform the new Implementation Plan. *Past agendas and meeting summaries can be found on the FHI website.*

CEH STRATEGIC PLAN AND NEW CHARTER APPROVED

Following over a year of intensive planning and outreach, and with input from over 500 stakeholders, the CEH Governing Board unanimously approved the CEH Strategic Plan at the Annual Conference and final Governing Board meeting on June 30, 2015. Find the final version of the plan [here](#). The Strategic Plan serves as CEH's 2014 Annual Report.

Along with the Plan, the Governing Board passed the CEH [Charter](#), which establishes CEH's new governing structure. To increase accountability and streamline the decision making process, the Governing Board and the Inter-Agency Council will be replaced by a single Coordinating Board of 25-30 members. In the selection process, representational categories shall be identified to ensure that membership comprises an appropriate array of committed private and public sector community leaders working to end homelessness, and who reflect the diversity of people experiencing homelessness and regional differences. Interested individuals are encouraged to apply via our [online application](#) by July 28, at in-person event July 21, 2-4 pm (location TBD), or through a phone interview (emailing cehkc@cehkc.org for more information).

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES - NEWS & UPDATES:

Coordinated Entry System – Progress on FHC process changes

Updates:

- A Coordinated Entry workgroup is continuing their work to further refine a proposed model for decentralized assessments, which will include regionally based Family Housing Resource Centers via community-based “hubs”.
 - Their work will include reviewing options for a new assessment tool and recommend an explicit prioritization policy for the family system.
- Efforts are also underway to align coordinated entry planning for all-populations – to reflect the CE Vision affirmed by the IAC in March.
- Funders will be working with providers to reduce and standardize screening criteria for better access to appropriate housing resources

Visit the FHI website to see materials related to the system redesign, including projected timeline and quarterly process/policy changes. Click on the following link ([Final Report](#)) to review the report.

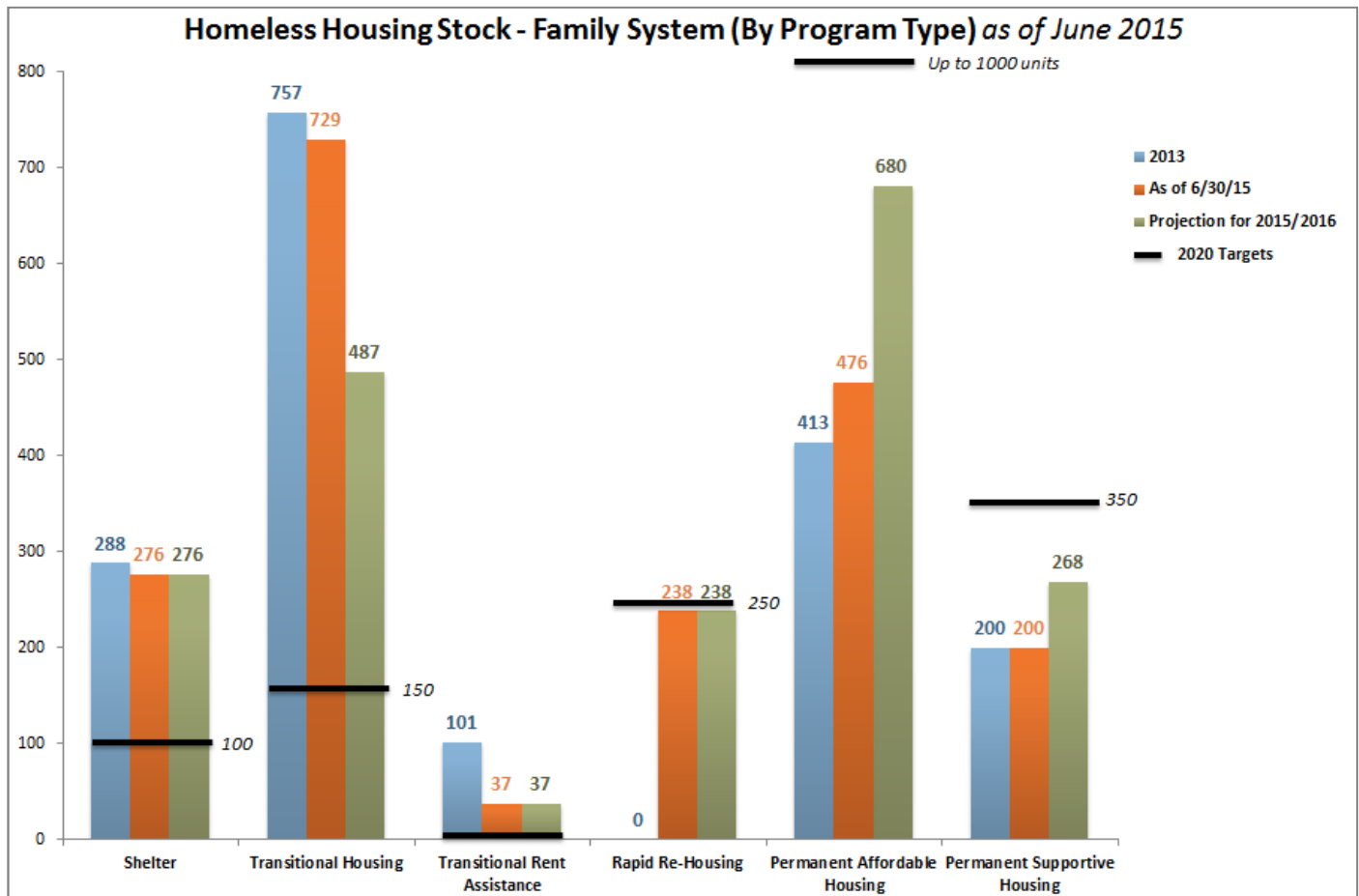
If you have any questions about the process, please feel to contact Triina Tennelo at triina.tennelo@cehkc.org.

July 2015

System Realignment Work

Realignment efforts are continuing as planned with local providers participating in the first phase. The figure below has been updated given new information about the status of the family system stock (as changes have occurred) and refined projections based on on-going efforts of agencies participating in the first phase of realignment. One of the notable changes includes additional rent assistance programs which have aligned with the Rapid Re-Housing model developed and refined from the 2014 pilot.

More information can be found on the Initiative website: www.kingcounty.gov/familyhomelessness. If you have questions or would like to discuss realignment options for any of your time-limited programs, please contact Triina Tennelo at triina.tennelo@cehkc.org



Systems Innovation Grants (SIG)

Shelter to Housing Project

The next Implementation Check in is scheduled for July 7th from 2-3:30 at the Capitol Hill Library - 425 Howard Ave E, Seattle. The meeting topic is a focus group discussion on financial empowerment, debt management, and working with debt collectors.

More about the Shelter to Housing Project and project guidelines can be found on the FHI [website](#) or by contacting triina.tennelo@cehkc.org.

Risk Mitigation Funds

In April, Building Changes made Risk Mitigations Funds (RMF) available to transitional housing projects in King County that reduce screening criteria (to include TH programs that realign to permanent housing models and

reduce screening). The project was developed and funds are being made available in response to needs and concerns identified by non-profit housing providers with the goal of improving access of local homeless housing programs to all families experiencing homelessness.

Now that we are several months into the project we would like to understand where agencies are in the process of applying for RMF. We would also like to hear from you about how RMF may benefit your agency, why they may not be helpful, or what is getting in the way of applying. The survey has 6 questions and should take 10-15 minutes to complete.

Please complete one (1) survey per program and submit your responses by Thursday, July 9th.

Survey Link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RMFCheckIn>

RMF Guidelines and forms can be found on the FHI [website](#) and additional questions can be directed to triina.tennelo@cehkc.org.

Funding and Training Opportunities

King County Combined Funders Notice of Funding Availability

An updated King County Combined Funders Notice of Funding Availability has been posted. Five public funders will together allocate approximately \$65.9 million. The NOFA includes funding for capital funding for new affordable, and operating support, rental assistance (including some RRH), and support services for new and existing housing. Read the full notice on King County's website under 'What's New' [here](#).

Grants Training in Seattle, WA - August 6-7, 2015

City University of Seattle and Grant Writing USA will present a two-day grants workshop in Seattle, August 6-7, 2015. This training is for grant seekers across all disciplines. Attend this class and you'll learn how to find grants and write winning grant proposals. [Click here for full event details](#).

Multi-enrollment discounts and discounts for Grant Writing USA returning alumni are available. Tuition payment is not required at the time of enrollment.

Tuition is \$455 and includes all materials: workbook and accompanying 420MB resource CD that's packed full of tools and more than 200 sample grant proposals. Seating is limited, online reservations are necessary. Complete event details including learning objectives, class location, graduate testimonials and online registration are [available here](#).

Contacts:

Janet Darling
at Grant Writing USA
888.290.6237 toll free
janet@grantwritingusa.com

Alex Webster
City University of Seattle
206.239.4817
alexwebster@CityU.edu

Job Opportunity: Solid Ground

Solid Ground is hiring for a new Stabilization Services Director. The position oversees Solid Ground's programs focused on housing and financial stability including services such as Rapid Re-Housing, Homelessness Prevention, Tenant Services and Financial Empowerment. This is an amazing team and a great organization that would benefit from a dynamic and passionate leader!

Applications can be submitted on Solid Ground's website through July 31st at 5pm: <http://www.solid-ground.org/AboutUs/Jobs/Pages/default.aspx>

WHAT'S COMING NEXT FOR FHI

Monthly FHI Stakeholder Information Session

The Family Homelessness Initiative staff host monthly information sessions on the 3rd Wednesday of the month to talk with local stakeholders (providers and funders) about the work of the Initiative. This is an opportunity to hear about current projects, what is coming up next, and to ask questions and provide input. The FHC Feedback Meetings, which are an opportunity for service providers and partners to hear updates on new policies/procedures at FHC and to provide feedback, will directly follow the Info Session each month.

THE NEXT FHI INFO SESSION will be:

Wednesday, July 15, 2015

9:00-10:00am

(Immediately followed by the **FHC Feedback Meeting** from 10:00-11:00am)

Location: 2100 Building (2100 24th Ave S, Seattle, WA 98144)

Contact Triina Tennelo at triina.tennelo@kingcounty.gov or visit the Initiative website for more information on the Info Session or Yasin Darmulo at yasind@ccsww.org for more information on the FHC Feedback Meetings.

CONTACT US

If you have questions about any of the above updates, or if you would like us to share any announcements, opportunities, or items on your behalf in future monthly emails, you can contact Debbi Knowles at debbi.knowles@cehkc.org.

Please feel free to contact any FHI staff member for more information or assistance:

Debbi Knowles, debbi.knowles@cehkc.org, 206-263-9088

Triina Tennelo, triina.tennelo@cehkc.org, 206-263-9110

Visit our website to learn more about the Family Homelessness Initiative or to locate any of the documents referenced in this email at www.kingcounty.gov/familyhomelessness.

For more information on the Committee to End Homelessness (CEH) or to see the most recent CEH monthly newsletter, go to the website at www.cehkc.org